

20091213.ba v04_n303.bam.20091213

>From ???@??? Sun Dec 13 16:41:02 2009 -0600
Date: Sun, 13 Dec 2009 16:39:52 CST
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 4303
Message-Id: <20091213224102.7ABE019B1C@sco.theporch.com>

BOATANCHORS Digest 4303

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) R-388 Question, 18 Mcs Xtal Osc Trimmer Cap
by "Michael Hardie" <mike46@shaw.ca>
- 2) Re: R-388 Question, 18 Mcs Xtal Osc Trimmer Cap
by Joe Eide <jeide@execpc.com>
- 3) Re: HRO-500 question
by "Sandy" <ebjr37@charter.net>
- 4) Re: HRO-500 question
by Heinz Breuer <hbreuer@debitel.net>
- 5) RE: HRO-500 question
by "Jim Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>
- 6) RE: HRO-500 question
by "Bill Hawkins" <bill@iaxs.net>
- 7) Re: HRO-500 question
by "Sandy" <ebjr37@charter.net>
- 8) FT-101EE FOR SALE
by "WA3GIN" <wa3gin@comcast.net>
- 9) R-388 Fixed
by "Michael Hardie" <mike46@shaw.ca>
- 10) Re: R-388 Fixed
by "Al Parker" <anchor@ec.rr.com>
- 11) London England radio Museums
by Ed White WA3BZT <wa3bzt@verizon.net>

Message-ID: <7438B28F9C5547C3AC14ECC5EB802F0C@userd0315415c7>

From: "Michael Hardie" <mike46@shaw.ca>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: R-388 Question, 18 Mcs Xtal Osc Trimmer Cap
Date: Fri, 11 Dec 2009 16:30:53 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
format=flowed;
charset="iso-8859-1";
reply-type=original
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

When carrying out the crystal oscillator alignment procedure on the R-388 there's no voltage on pin 7 of V102 when trying to adjust the 18 Mcs trimmer. The other trimmers work as advertised. The crystal could be the problem, but which crystal?

Mike VE7MMH

Message-ID: <4B22EBC7.1000300@execpc.com>
Date: Fri, 11 Dec 2009 19:03:03 -0600
From: Joe Eide <jeide@execpc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: R-388 Question, 18 Mcs Xtal Osc Trimmer Cap
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I believe that would be the 10,000 kc xtal.
Are the 7, 8, 17, 18, 27 & 28 mc bands working?

Joe - KB9R

Michael Hardie wrote:

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> R-388 there's no voltage on pin 7 of V102 when trying to adjust the 18
> Mcs trimmer. The other trimmers work as advertised. The crystal
> could be the problem, but which crystal?
>
> Mike VE7MMH
>
>

Message-ID: <0ABBCF991FED4A4B90AD424D33FD9BF9@gateway>
From: "Sandy" <ebjr37@charter.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: HRO-500 question
Date: Fri, 11 Dec 2009 19:22:48 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
format=flowed;
charset="iso-8859-1";
reply-type=original
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Jim,

I've worked on many of those YEARS ago but never heard that problem!
Make a recording file at different degrees of selectivity and send it to me.

One thing you must be VERY careful of! The mechanical stops at each end of the PW dial are VERY tender and have a tendency to break suddenly if the dial is accidentally slammed at the end of the tuning range. ALWAYS approach the last turn very carefully and gently come to the dial stop! Replacement parts were ALWAYS hard to get for the HRO-500 dial!

Another problem that can be VERY critical to get right is the 'locking point' for the "Wadley-Loop" oscillator within a particular band range. If it "locks" with the frequency range slightly "off center (above or below the clear part of the window, but still readable) accept the slight alignment error! The trimmers that control each band of that circuit are VERY difficult to "get right" and can become extremely touchy to adjust.

The RCA transistors are probably, by now, almost "unobtainium". We didn't find any "replacements" that were suitable for the receiver either. (Germaniums as I recall.) I remember it as one helluvagood working receiver when it is working right. It can be one super pain-in-the-ass when it goes wrong.

Good luck with it and treasure your "find".

73,

Sandy W5TVW

----- Original Message -----

From: "Jim Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>

To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 9:20 AM

Subject: HRO-500 question

> Hi Gang,

>

> I've had my HRO-500 receiver on my workbench for the past couple of days,
> just going through some routine alignment. It's working fine, but the CW
> notes have a "wooshing" sound that is quite annoying and I can't make go
> away. I've suspected the 50 kHz pot core resonators to be the culprit, but
> don't know for sure. Do other owners of this radio hear the same thing?

> If

> not, I'll look for something wrong. I initially thought the product
> detector

> might be introducing distortion, but I don't think so. The radio sounds
> great on AM.

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> Incidentally, my HRO-500 was one of the "new" radios that appeared in
> unopened boxes about a decade ago, from a military base in California. It
> was a real thrill to open the box and unpack the brand new radio. The
> HRO-500 wins my award for the best dial on any radio ever made.
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>
> 73,
>
> Jim Garland
>
>

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 9.0.709 / Virus Database: 270.14.103/2558 - Release Date: 12/11/09
04:06:00

Message-ID: <4B23840A.5060304@debitel.net>
Date: Sat, 12 Dec 2009 12:52:42 +0100
From: Heinz Breuer <hbreuer@debitel.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: HRO-500 question
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Hello,

I have one of these California military treasures too. It came in the original wooden crate, a true time capsule. It is working on all bands but unfortunately it is far off, in the lowest band it locks when there is nothing in the display. It gets better as frequency goes up because the markings are closer together. I haven't touched it so far in fear to make things worse.

I even found a LF converter and a speaker for it, but it took me a couple years on eBay and way too much money. The cabinets for the speaker and the LF converter need a touch up or

even a complete repaint, any hint on a available color?

vy 73 de Heinz DH2FA, KM5VT

Sandy schrieb:

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> Good luck with it and treasure your "find".
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> 73,
>
> Sandy W5TVW
>
> ----- Original Message ----- From: "Jim Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>
> To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
> Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 9:20 AM
> Subject: HRO-500 question
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> 12/11/09 04:06:00

>

>

>

From: "Jim Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: RE: HRO-500 question

Date: Sat, 12 Dec 2009 07:36:45 -0700

Message-ID: <029d01ca7b38\$88bca590\$bd00a8c0@Garland>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="us-ascii"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Heinz and Sandy,

I also managed to pay too much on eBay for an LF-10, which I've not used except to listen to WWVH at 100 kHz and a few airport beacon stations. Also, the built-in speaker is very tiny and unpleasant to listen to except for occasional monitoring. Still, it works well, and the interface switching is very convenient.

Heinz, it's been a decade since I aligned the synthesizer, but as I recall it wasn't difficult to center the lock points in the display window. I'd have to check the manual again, but I think your locking misalignment on the lowest band may require just a single trimmer cap adjustment. I also aligned Howard Mill's radio, then, and it went into alignment smoothly also.

Sandy, I agree completely with your comments about the frail end points on the tuning dial. I'm always careful near the end of the turning range. Because there's no dial scale, other than the micrometer PW dial, it's sometimes hard to know if one is at the low or high end of the tuning range.

I'm still pulling my hair out over the CW/SSB sound of the radio. (I don't have the ability to send an audio file, unfortunately).SSB stations sound like they're speaking with mush in their mouth, and CW stations have a woosh sound. I hear it on all filter selections, which rules out the pot core resonators (which are switched out on the 8 and 5 kHz positions). I'll continue to play with it today. Wish I had another radio I could compare the sound to.

To me, the most frustrating part of the alignment is setting the VFO end points. I spent a couple of hours last night, but couldn't get them any closer than about 2.5 kHz to the 500kHz span. Adjusting the coil is easy, but changing the touchy trimmer cap causes the VFO to drift for about 5 kHz for about ten minutes, so one just has to ballpark the adjustment and wait for things to settle down.

Despite the complaints, the HRO-500 is a great radio. It's a crossover design, just as solid state electronics was taking hold, and it has a foot in both eras. And, of course, the styling is fabulous. I wish I knew more about the history of the radio, and also its rare HRO-600 successor. The HRO-600 has much better performance, as one would expect, but lacks the classy styling of the HRO-500.

73,

Jim Garland W8ZR

> -----Original Message-----

> From: owner-boatanchors@theporch.com

[mailto:owner-boatanchors@theporch.com] On

> Behalf Of Heinz Breuer

> Sent: Saturday, December 12, 2009 4:53 AM

> To: Old Tube Radios
> Cc: Old Tube Radios
> Subject: Re: HRO-500 question
>
> Hello,
>
> I have one of these California military treasures too. It came in the
> original wooden crate, a true time capsule.
> It is working on all bands but unfortunately it is far off, in the
> lowest band it locks when there is nothing in the display. It gets
> better as frequency goes up because the markings are closer together. I
> haven't touched it so far in fear to make things worse.
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> couple years on eBay and way too much money.
> The cabinets for the speaker and the LF converter need a touch up or
> even a complete repaint, any hint on a available color?
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> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Sandy W5TVW
> >
> > ----- Original Message ----- From: "Jim Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>
> > To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
> > Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 9:20 AM
> > Subject: HRO-500 question
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> > No virus found in this incoming message.

> > Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

> > Version: 9.0.709 / Virus Database: 270.14.103/2558 - Release Date:

> > 12/11/09 04:06:00

> >

> >

> >

From: "Bill Hawkins" <bill@iaxs.net>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: RE: HRO-500 question

Date: Sat, 12 Dec 2009 09:51:06 -0600

Message-ID: <616E29322EBB414DA48AB88E58FF62EC@cyrus>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="us-ascii"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Jim,

That's a remarkable convertor, because WWVH is not supposed to be on 100 kHz. Perhaps WWVB at 60 kHz? See <http://tf.nist.gov/>

Bill Hawkins

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Garland

Sent: Saturday, December 12, 2009 8:37 AM

Hi Heinz and Sandy,

I also managed to pay too much on eBay for an LF-10, which I've not used except to listen to WWVH at 100 kHz and a few airport beacon stations. Also, the built-in speaker is very tiny and unpleasant to listen to except for occasional monitoring. Still, it works well, and the interface switching is very convenient.

--- snip ---

Message-ID: <8474769F0AE741F2976FAEC5418921A9@gateway>

From: "Sandy" <ebjr37@charter.net>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: Re: HRO-500 question
Date: Sat, 12 Dec 2009 10:29:36 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
format=flowed;
charset="iso-8859-1";
reply-type=original
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The HRO-500's I was referring to (about the "locking" problems) could have possibly been due to transistors. These were all sets that had been in service for years. Transistors were unavailable at the time and there is no really "good" substitute for them. At least I didn't find any.

Setting the calibration to agree exactly with the PW dial is always a daunting task. Can take several hours of tweaking and waiting! I have never seen the HRO-600.

There was an FCC inspector here in New Orleans who had a new HRO-500 he bought when they were out for around a year. He loved it and carried it around on his car seat for a long time. Art Hallum (don't remember his callsign). He was transferred to another office and I lost track of him years ago. Could be even an "SK" today.

73,

Sandy W5TVW

----- Original Message -----
From: "Jim Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>
To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 12, 2009 8:36 AM
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>> > ----- Original Message ----- From: "Jim Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>
>> > To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
>> > Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 9:20 AM
>> > Subject: HRO-500 question
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>> > Version: 9.0.709 / Virus Database: 270.14.103/2558 - Release Date:
>> > 12/11/09 04:06:00
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No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 9.0.716 / Virus Database: 270.14.104/2560 - Release Date: 12/12/09
01:38:00

Message-ID: <FAF4063A8C9643B2AB04C2CB349A1A7C@ToughBookLaptop>
From: "WA3GIN" <wa3gin@comcast.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: FT-101EE FOR SALE
Date: Sat, 12 Dec 2009 16:41:48 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="-----=_NextPart_000_00AD_01CA7B49.FFC414F0"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=_NextPart_000_00AD_01CA7B49.FFC414F0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

...just put in new final tubes and the transformer blew...rig in great =
shape otherwise. Best offer gets it. Pics available.

73,
dave
wa3gin for w3bez
-----=_NextPart_000_00AD_01CA7B49.FFC414F0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

```
* * * * *
*      ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED---      *
*      This post contains a forbidden message format      *
*      (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) *
*      Mail Lists at theporch.com only accept PLAIN TEXT      *
*      If your postings display this message your mail program *
*      is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting *
* * * * *
```

-----=_NextPart_000_00AD_01CA7B49.FFC414F0--

Message-ID: <4541350F5EAD4821838BEF059B2630B4@userd0315415c7>
From: "Michael Hardie" <mike46@shaw.ca>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: R-388 Fixed
Date: Sat, 12 Dec 2009 16:15:00 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
format=flowed;
charset="iso-8859-1";
reply-type=original
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As per the previous post the 10 Mc crystal is the one used by the xtal oscillator on the 18 Mcs band. I pulled it and found a definat dip at 10 Mcs on a grid dip meter so looked further, on bands 17 and 18 there was no output from the xtal oscillator, suspicion fell on the large rotary switch. The switch contacts checked out with a VOM, but during the checking it was discovered that both sides of C153/C154 were grounded, switching bands had no effect. By poking around in the all-but-inaccessible xtal oscillator compartment I discovered the bare wire going from C153/C154 to the rotary switch rear wafer was touching the bare wire on the grounded side of the other row of trimmers. After minor bending and an alignment the radio is working very well. There's a very minor oscillation when receiving strong stations, sort of like a very weak BFO slightly off to one side, but that will wait for another day.

Mike VE7MMH

Message-ID: <D1CD33C80A014A2F970A4EF2F66FA8A3@AWPLAP>
From: "Al Parker" <anchor@ec.rr.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: R-388 Fixed

Date: Sat, 12 Dec 2009 19:18:59 -0500

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
format=flowed;
charset="iso-8859-1";
reply-type=response

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ain't it sweet when you find those sorts of things?

73,

Al, W8UT

New Bern, NC

www.boatanchors.org

www.hammalund.info

----- Original Message -----

From: "Michael Hardie" <mike46@shaw.ca>

By poking around in the all-but-inaccessible xtal oscillator

> compartment I discovered the bare wire going from C153/C154 to the rotary

> switch rear wafer was touching the bare wire on the grounded side of the

> other row of trimmers. After minor bending and an alignment the radio is

> working very well. >

> Mike VE7MMH

Message-id: <4B256D0D.5070407@verizon.net>

Date: Sun, 13 Dec 2009 17:39:09 -0500

From: Ed White WA3BZT <wa3bzt@verizon.net>

MIME-version: 1.0

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: London England radio Museums

Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang:

Where are the radio museums of interest in the London England area? I know Bletchley Park has a radio Museum I am also thinking of going to the American Air Museum ,Duxford.

Any info will be great

Ed

WA3BZT

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 4303
